



Senate Republicans 2010—Year of the Reform

Feb. 24, 2010

Retired Lawmakers' Health Care Reforms Estimated Savings: \$5 Million

Eliminating retiree health care benefits for newly elected public servants – including legislators, attorney general, secretary of state, governor, lieutenant governor, Supreme Court justices and Court of Appeals judges.

Highlights of House Bill 4194 (Slavens) and Senate Bill 132 (Kuipers):

- Eliminating retirement health care for new legislators and statewide elected officials – including the next governor – is a key step to reducing the cost of state government.
- Senate Republicans introduced and passed legislation in 2007 to reform retired lawmaker health care benefits. That reform died in the House because the chamber failed to pass both bills.
- The Senate bill is a reintroduction of a reform – addressing statewide elected officials – which the Senate passed in 2007 and later died in the House.
- We urge the House to join us in ending retiree health care benefits for all future elected state officials.

Additional reforms affecting lawmakers to be taken up this year:

- Lawmakers are also impacted by wage reductions and insurance premium requirements in the Senate Republican reform package.
- Requiring that all current public employees – including lawmakers – pay at least 20 percent of their health insurance premium could save taxpayers more than \$600 million.